

Remarks

This amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed July 24, 2006. Claims 1, 2, and 13 are being amended. In view of the above amendments and following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests approval of the proposed changes to the drawings and reconsideration and allowance of Claims 1-25.

In the Office Action, claim 2 was objected to for depending from claim 2. Claim 2 is being amended to depend from claim 1. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to claim 2 is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1-3, 5, 13, 19, and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Moe (U.S. Pat. No. 2,572,276). Moe discloses a roller formed from a single material and having axially extending grooves. Nothing in Moe suggests the roller is formed from anything but a single material.

The present invention claimed in amended claims 1 and 13 recites the limitations of "extruding an elongated roller core defining a radially outwardly facing surface, and including an axial opening for receiving a shaft, said core being formed from a first material having a first coefficient of friction; and coextruding a coating over said radially outwardly facing surface for engagement with a conveyor belt, said coating being formed from a second material having a second coefficient of friction, said second coefficient of friction being different than said first coefficient of friction." Forming the roller from a core and coating having different coefficients of friction is disclosed in paragraph [0024] of Applicant's original disclosure, and thus not new matter. As discussed above, Moe only discloses forming a roller from a single material.

Claims 2, 3, 5, 19, and 22 depend from one of claims 1 and 13, which Applicant believes are allowable. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-3, 5, 13, 19, and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Moe is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1, 5, and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Adkisson et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 4,453,848) in view of Lauhus (U.S. Pat. No. 6,182,333). Adkisson et al. discloses a platen for use in a typewriter or printer. The

platen includes a metal core having a resilient coating. The metal core disclosed in Adkisson et al. is formed by extrusion to form a single unitary structure (See col. 3, lines 29-35 of Adkisson et al.) The Office Action acknowledges that Adkisson fails to disclose coextruding a core and coating, as claimed in claims 1 and 13.

The Office Action cites Lauhus to satisfy this deficiency. Lauhus does disclose extruding a first material with a second material. Lauhus, however, fails to disclose how to coextrude the metal core with the coating formed from nitrile compound, rubber, or other such material, as disclosed in of Adkisson et al. Moreover, it is not feasible to coextrude a metal core and a coating formed from nitrile compound, rubber, or other such material, because of the significant differences in the melting points of the two materials. Accordingly, Lauhus does not teach one skilled in the art that the core and coating of Adkisson et al. can be coextruded. Therefore, it would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill, at the time of the invention to coextrude the core and coating disclosed in Adkisson et al.

Claims 5 and 6 depend from claim 1, which Applicant asserts is allowable over the combination of Adkisson et al. and Lauhus. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 5, and 6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for being unpatentable over Adkisson et al. in view of Lauhus is respectfully requested.

Claims 2 and 3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Adkisson et al. in view of Lauhus as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Moe. Claims 2 and 3 depend from claim 1, which as discussed above is believed allowable over Adkisson et al. in view of Lauhus. Moe does not satisfy the deficiencies in Adkisson et al. and Lauhus. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 2 and 3 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for being unpatentable over Adkisson et al. in view of Lauhus as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Moe is respectfully requested.

Claims 9, 15, and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Moe in view of Lauhus. As discussed above, Moe discloses a roller having a core and coating formed from a single material. Lauhus does disclose coextruding two different materials. However, nothing in Lauhus regarding coextruding is applicable to extruding a

roller formed from a single material. Therefore, there is no motivation to combine the teaching of Lauhus with the roller disclosed in Moe and it would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill, at the time of the invention to form the roller disclosed in Moe as taught by Lauhus. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 9, 15, and 16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for being unpatentable over Moe in view of Lauhus is respectfully requested.

Claims 10 and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Moe in view of Anderson (U.S. Pat. No. 1,235,753). Claims 10 and 22 depend from one of claims 1 and 13, which as discussed above is allowable over Moe. Anderson does not satisfy the deficiencies in Moe. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 10 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for being unpatentable over Moe in view of Anderson is respectfully requested.

Claims 13, 15-17, 19, 20, 22, and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Adkisson et al. in view of Lauhus and Moe. As discussed above, Adkisson et al. discloses a platen for use in a typewriter or printer. The platen includes a metal core having a resilient coating. The metal core disclosed in Adkisson et al. is formed by extrusion to form a single unitary structure (See col. 3, lines 29-35 of Adkisson et al.) The Office Action acknowledges that Adkisson fails to disclose coextruding a core and coating, as claimed in claims 13.

The Office Action cites Lauhus to satisfy this deficiency. Lauhus does disclose extruding a first material with a second material. Lauhus, however fails to disclose how to coextrude a metal core with a coating formed from nitrile compound, rubber, or other such material, as disclosed in of Adkisson et al. Accordingly, Lauhus does not teach one skilled in the art that the core and coating of Adkisson et al. can be coextruded. Therefore, it would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill, at the time of the invention to coextrude the core and coating disclosed in Adkisson et al.

Moe discloses a roller formed from a single material. Accordingly, Moe fails to satisfy the deficiencies of Adkisson et al. and Lauhus.

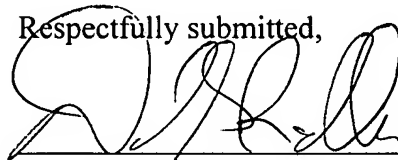
Claims 15-17, 19, 20, 22, and 24 depend from claim 13, which Applicant asserts is allowable over the combination of Adkisson et al., Lauhus, and Moe. Accordingly,

withdrawal of the rejection of claims 13, 15-17, 19, 20, 22, and 24 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for being unpatentable over Adkisson et al. in view of Lauhus and Moe is respectfully requested.

Claim 23 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Adkisson et al. in view of Lauhus and Moe as applied to claim 13 above, and further in view of Anderson. Claim 23 depends from claim 13, which is believed allowable over Adkisson et al. in view of Lauhus. Moe fails to satisfy the deficiencies in Adkisson et al., Lauhus, and Moe. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claim 23 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for being unpatentable over Adkisson et al. in view of Lauhus and Moe as applied to claim 13 above, and further in view of Anderson is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, and 13 are being amended. In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-25. No additional fees for filing this response are believed to be due. However, if such fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge them to deposit account no. 17-0055.

Respectfully submitted,



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